

Remarks

Claims 47, 64-68 and 74, 80-85 and 91-93 and 95 are pending in the subject application. Claims 1-46, 48-63 and 69-73 are canceled. By this Amendment, Applicants have amended claims 74, 82-83, 85 and 95 and canceled claims 75-79, 86-90, 94 and 96. Support for the amended claims can be found throughout the subject specification and in the claims as originally filed. Entry and consideration of the amendments presented herein is respectfully requested. Accordingly, claims 47, 64-68, 74, 80-85, 91-93 and 95 are currently before the Examiner. Favorable consideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested. All reference to page and line numbers in this response relate to the substitute specification concurrently filed herewith.

As an initial matter, Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claims 47, 64-68 and 84 have been allowed. In addition, Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claims 79, 82, 83 and 90 would be allowable if re-written as independent claims. It is also respectfully submitted that claims 91-93 are also in condition for allowance as they depend from a claim that has been re-written in order to place it in allowable condition.

Claims 74-78, 80-81, 85-89 and 91-96 were rejected under 35 US §112, first paragraph. While Applicants respectfully disagree with this rejection, the cancellation of the claims has rendered the rejections moot. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 85-87, 91-92 and 95-96 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Biassoni et al.* (Accession No. AJ223153 Sept. 1, 1999) in view of *Harlow et al.* (in *Antibodies – A Laboratory Manual*, 1988, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Publication, Cold Spring Harbor, NY, pages 92-94, 116-117 and 359-366), and *Campbell et al.* (in *Monoclonal Antibody Technology*, 1984, Elsevier Science Publisher, New York, NY, pages 1-32). Claims 88-89 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Biassoni et al.* (Accession No. AJ223153, Sept. 1, 1999) in view of *Harlow et al.* (in *Antibodies – A Laboratory Manual*, 1988 Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Publication, Cold Spring Harbor, NY, pages 92-94, 116-117 and 359-366), *Campbell et al.* (in *Monoclonal Antibody Technology*, 1984, Elsevier Science Publisher, New York, NY, pages 1-32), as applied to claims 85-87, 91-92 and 95-96 and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,530,101, filed

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Dec. 1990). Claims 93-94 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Biassoni *et al.* (Accession No. AJ223153, Sept. 1, 1999) in view of Harlow *et al.* (in *Antibodies – A Laboratory Manual*, 1988 Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Publication, Cold Spring Harbor, NY, pages 92-94, 116-117 and 359-366), Campbell *et al.* (in *Monoclonal Antibody Technology*, 1984, Elsevier Science Publisher, New York, NY, pages 1-32), as applied to claims 85-87, 91-92 and 95-96 and further in view of Ellison *et al.* (*J. Immunological Methods* 186:233-243; 1995). Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are not obvious over the cited combinations of references. However, in the interest of expediting prosecution in this matter Applicants have canceled these claims thereby rendering the rejections moot. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

It should be understood that the amendments presented herein have been made solely to expedite prosecution of the subject application to completion and should not be construed as an indication of Applicants' agreement with or acquiescence in the Examiner's position. Applicants expressly reserve the right to pursue the invention(s) disclosed in the subject application, including any subject matter canceled or not pursued during prosecution of the subject application, in a related application.

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments to the claims, Applicants believe that the currently pending claims are in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17 as required by this paper to Deposit Account No. 19-0065.

7

Docket No: INN-103TD1  
Serial No: 10/036,444

Applicants invite the Examiner to call the undersigned if clarification is needed on any of this response, or if the Examiner believes a telephonic interview would expedite the prosecution of the subject application to completion.

Respectfully submitted,



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